

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraphs [0009]; [0013]; [0017]; [0020] and [0026] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0009] The above object can be achieved by toner composition, comprising a binder resin, a wax, a copolymer and a colorant;

the copolymer being a copolymer of an  $\alpha$ -olefin, maleic anhydride and maleic anhydride acid monoester.

[0013] The present invention relates to a toner composition, comprising a binder resin, a wax, a copolymer and a colorant;

the copolymer being a copolymer of an  $\alpha$ -olefin, maleic anhydride and maleic anhydride acid monoester.

[0017] The wax dispersant to be used in the present invention is a copolymer of  $\alpha$ -olefin-maleic anhydride copolymer-maleic anhydride acid monoester, that is, a copolymer between “an  $\alpha$ -olefin-maleic anhydride copolymer” and a “maleic anhydride acid monoester”, more preferably a graft copolymer formed by introducing a “maleic anhydride acid monoester” into “an  $\alpha$ -olefin-maleic anhydride copolymer”.

[0020] The monoester of maleic anhydride is a monoalkyl ester of maleic acid. The alkyl is not particularly limited as long as it achieves the separation preventive effect of the wax and the uniform dispersion accelerating effect of the wax. For example, alkyl groups having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, preferably 1 to 4 carbon atoms, are used. Specific examples of preferable

monoesters of maleic anhydride include: monomethyl esters of maleic acid, monomethyl esters of maleic acid, monopropyl esters of maleic acid and monobutyl esters of maleic acid, and in particular, monopropyl esters of maleic acid are preferably used. Two or more kinds of monoesters of maleic ~~anhydride~~ acid may be used in combination.

[0026] With respect to a commercially available product of the above-mentioned wax dispersant, for example, products of Ceramer series, made by Toyo-Petrolite Co., Ltd., are obtained. Specific examples include Ceramer 1608 and Ceramer 1251, and in particular, Ceramer 1608 is most preferably used in order to effectively improve the toner characteristics. Ceramer 1608 is a graft copolymer formed by introducing “monoisopropyl ester of maleic ~~anhydride~~ acid” into “a copolymer of propylene and maleic anhydride”.